

Headquarters U.S. Air Force

***I n t e g r i t y - S e r v i c e - E x c e l l e n
c e***

FY 2004 Legislative Update



**Air Section--- 2003 ROA
National Convention**

U.S. AIR FORCE

**Mr. Wayne Gracie
HQ USAF/REI
26 June 2003**



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Overview

- **FY 2004 National Defense Authorization Bills**
- **Non-Regular (Reserve) Retirement Bills**
- **The Way Ahead - Future Initiatives**
- **Getting Involved - Staying Informed**



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FY04 National Defense Authorization Actions



As of:

Integrity - Service - Excellence



Tanker Aircraft Retirement

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The budget request and FYDP includes plans to retire 68 KC-135 aircraft because of the continuing, rising cost of maintenance

House (section 131)

- Establishes account to prepare for lease or purchase rather than retirement of 135s

Senate (section 367)

- Restricts the AF from retiring more than 12 KC-135 aircraft in FY 2004

Conference

Status



Simplification of Annual Participation of Ready Reserve

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Typically, reservists are required to perform the equivalent of 38 training days in the form of 48 periods of inactive duty for training (traditionally, four periods over a weekend) and 14 days of AT. Others fulfill training and active duty requirements in at least 32 different categories of duty status.

House (section 523)

- Restates the annual training requirement as 38 days per year

Senate

- Not addressed

Conference

Status



Military Pay Raise

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The PB recommends a range of military pay increases from 2% up to 6.5%, targeted by rank and years of experience. Differential pay increases enhance DOD's ability to retain its most experienced personnel.

House (section 601)

- Across the board 3.7%
- Targeted raise for mid-career
- Average 4.1%

Senate (section 601)

- Across the board 3.7%
- Targeted raise for mid-career
- Average 4.15%

Conference

Status



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Annual Pay Adjustment Process

Current law requires an annual adjustment of basic pay for military members at 0.5% above the Employment Cost Index (ECI) through 2006 (otherwise equals the increase of GS civilian employees)

House

- **Not addressed**

Senate (section 602)

- **Requires annual adjustment to equal the ECI (after 2006) in lieu of current ECI - 0.5%**

Conference

Status



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Hazardous Duty Pay for Reservists (EOD and PJs)

Currently, reservists are limited to 1/30th of a month's hazardous duty incentive pay for each day served

House (section 615)

- **Authorizes reservists performing EOD and PJ duties to be paid at the same rate as active duty if qualification stds are maintained**

Senate

- **Not addressed**

Conference

Status



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Commanders' Responsibility Pay

37 USC 306 authorizes special pay to active duty members in positions of unusual responsibility (limits number to 5% of all O-3s and below and 10% of all O-4s, O-5s and O-6s)

House

- **Not addressed**

Senate (section 615)

- **Authorizes reservists to receive this pay at 1/30th of the monthly rate**

Conference

Status



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Hostile Fire and Imminent Danger Pay for IDTs

Currently, reservists serving on IDT are not authorized to receive hostile fire pay and imminent danger pay (HFP/IDP)

House (section 616)

- **Authorizes reservists on IDT status to receive HFP/IDP (effective 11 Sep 01)**

Senate (section 620)

- **Authorizes reservists on IDT status to receive HFP/IDP (effective 11 Sep 01)**

Conference

Status



Reimbursement for Lodging Expenses While TDY

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Payment of lodging per diem is not authorized for reservists on Temporary Duty (TDY) during periods of leave or a return to Place From Which Called (Or Ordered) To Active Duty (PLEAD)

House (section 633)

- **Authorizes reservists/retirees the lodging cost for periods of leave**

Senate

- **Not addressed**

Conference

Status



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Use of Commissaries by Reservists

Current law authorizes reservists up to 24 visits to the commissary each year for RC members with at least 50 points and gray area retirees and based on participation for members without 50 points

House (section 651)

- **Auth reservists and retirees use of commissaries on same basis as active duty and dependents**

Senate (section 369)

- **Elim the annual limitation on use of commissaries by reservists with at least 50 pts and retirees**

Conference

Status



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Base Realignments and Closures

Under current law, the SecDef must submit a force structure plan and description of necessary supporting infrastructure with the FY05 budget request

House (section 2842)

- **Requires SecDef to submit a force structure plan that assumes, at a minimum, the 1991 Base Force Plan. Also, assume no US forces are permanently based outside of United States**

Senate

- **Not addressed**

Conference

Status



Retirement Bills

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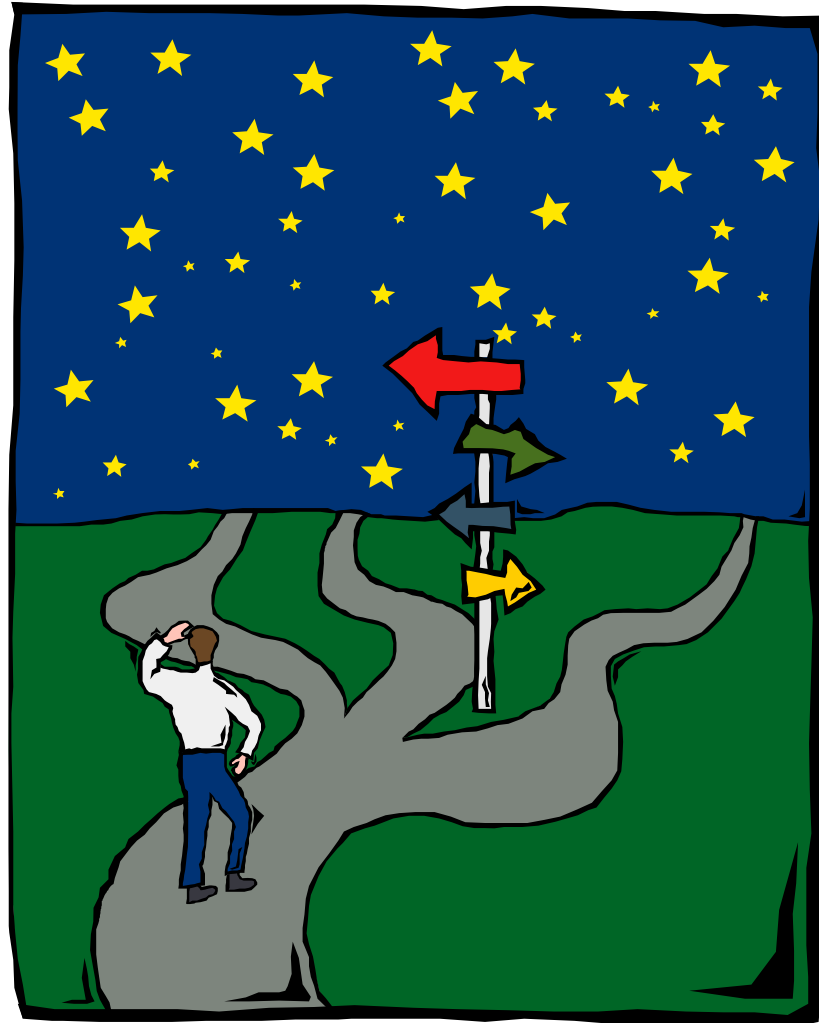
■ Reserve Retirement

Bill	Sponso r	Co-S	Description and Last Action
HR33 1	Wilson	18	Immediate annuity; Introduced 1/8/03
HR74 2	Saxton	117	Lower retirement age to 55; Introduced 2/12/03
S445	Landrieu	1	Retirement buydown; Introduced 2/25/03
S103 5	Corzine	5	Reserve Retirement at age 55; Introduced 5/9/03



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The Way Ahead... Future Initiatives





Future Initiatives

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- **Pay Raise - ECI -0.5% / =ECI / ECI +0.5%**
- **IDT points Creditable Towards Retirement**
- **1/30th Rule, e.g. ACIP, CEFIP, HDIP, FLPP**
- **Full Commissary Shopping Privileges
(HASC/SASC)**
- **Eliminate BAH-II**
- **BAH for RC Without Dependents**
- **Reenlistment Bonus Past 20 Years**
- **Payment of Lodging Expenses During
Contingency Operations (HASC)**
- **Medical/Dental Coverage**
- **Income Protection**



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Summary

- **FY 2004 legislation is potentially very favorable to reservists and their family members**
- **Several issues to be worked in the future**
- **Legislation is a dynamic process with numerous key players**
 - **To ensure the Congress is informed of Reserve Component capabilities and accomplishments**
- **REI is available:**
 - **DSN 223-2452, 703-693-2452**
 - **www.re.hq.af.mil/rei**



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Questions?



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ABOVE & BEYOND

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